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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
. 09/881,547	06/14/2001	Yu-Li Chang	S01.12-0712	6844		
', 75	90 03/20/2003					
Deirdre Megley Kvale			EXAMINER			
Westman, Champlin & Kelly International Centre, Suite 1600 900 Second Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55402-3319			KLIMOWICZ, WILLIAM JOSEPH			
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
			2652	2652		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Department			Application No.	Applicant(s)	- (\\)			
## Deficie Action Summary Examiner William J. Klimowicz 2552	Office Action Summary				•			
Period for Reply A SHCRTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHCRTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Educations of time any be available under the previous of 37 CFR 1.136(s). In no event, however, may a reply the timely fined after 50 (s) (MONTHS from the mining date of the communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) eary, a reply within the statetory mininum of thirty (30) eary, as reply within the statetory mininum of thirty (30) eary, as reply within the statetory within the state of the stat								
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A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. E-tenerise of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CPR 1.13(d), in no event, however, may a reply be timely flied E-tenerise of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CPR 1.13(d), in no event, however, may a reply be timely flied I the period for reply apposited above is lies than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory privation for reply in a provision of the period for reply will, by attention to the Communication. Failure to reply within the set of vaterable part of the reply will. by attention, and the communication, even if timely flied, may reduce any searned patient term adjustment. Sea 37 CPR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filled on	•	- The MAILING DATE of this communication app			SS			
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2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) is/are objected to by the Examiner. 4pplication Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 4pplication Papers 9) The proposed drawing orrection filed on is/accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Application may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) The proposed drawings correction filed on is: a) opproved b) disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3 Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. Attachment(s) 10 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.		Decreasing to a supervision (a) (b) does						
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Application/Control Number: 09/881,547

Art Unit: 2652

Election/Restrictions

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- I. FIG. 5 drawn to upstream and downstream flow gates construction used in a disk drive.
- II. FIG. 7-1 drawn to an upstream flow gate construction with an inwardly directed flow pattern toward a disk spindle used in a disk drive.
- III. FIG. 7-2 drawn to an upstream flow gate construction with an outwardly directed flow pattern away from a disk spindle used in a disk drive.
- IV. FIG. 8 drawn to a flow gate construction with a plurality of flow gates disposed between adjacent discs.
- V. FIGS. 12-13 drawn to a flow gate construction that is peripherally mounted about a plurality of discs.

Upon election of one of the implemented flow gates supports within the disk drive, the Applicants are further required to elect among the following subspecies of flow gates:

- A. FIGS. 2-1, 2-2 and 9 a flow gate having a honeycomb like structure.
- B. FIGS. 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 10 and 11 a flow gate having parallel fins.
- C. FIG. 4 a flow gate having parallel tube-like structure.
- D. FIGS. 6-1 and 6-2 a flow gate having curved fin like structure.

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Art Unit: 2652

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable and additionally identify any generic claims.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the

currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William J. Klimowicz whose telephone number is (703) 305-3452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (6:30AM-5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on (703) 305-9687. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (7.03) 305-4700.

William William Wicz Primary Examiner Art Unit 2652

WJK March 19, 2003